

Geological Sciences

This major includes a spectrum of disciplines focused on understanding the processes that influence the tectonics and environment of the planet, on using this understanding to read the record of earth history written in rocks and sediments, and on developing models that can be used to predict future changes due to natural phenomena and recent perturbations caused by humans.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (BS) REQUIREMENTS OVERVIEW

One Introductory Courses. Several Examples are:

- Planet Earth, Oceanography, Crises of a Planet, Climate Change, or Earthquakes

Nine Upper Division Courses

- General Chemistry A & B
- Calculus I and II
- Physics for Life Sciences A & B
- General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution
- General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology
- Mineral and Earth Systems
- Undergraduate Team Research
- Field Geology or Direct Research
- Senior Thesis

Seven Elective Courses. A few examples are:

- Structural Geology and Tectonics
- Introduction to Engineering Geology
- Oceans, Climates, and the Environment
- Geobiology and Astrobiology
- Paleontology and Evolution in Deep Time

EXPERIENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

- **Southern California Earthquake Center:** Geology majors in their sophomore, junior, or senior year are eligible to intern with the SCEC headquarters at USC.
- **Earth Science Team Research:** This eight-unit, multidisciplinary student research experience that takes place largely outside of the classroom. Students teams work closely with faculty to collect data in the field, interpret their findings, and present at symposia held in the spring semester.
- **Maymster:** Field-based research is an essential part of Geological Sciences, and you will have the opportunity to participate in this unique spring program where you will travel and complete field work in the southern Andes, Argentina during the month of May.

For additional information, including all major requirements, please consult the USC Catalogue or <http://dornsife.usc.edu/earth/undergraduate-degrees/>